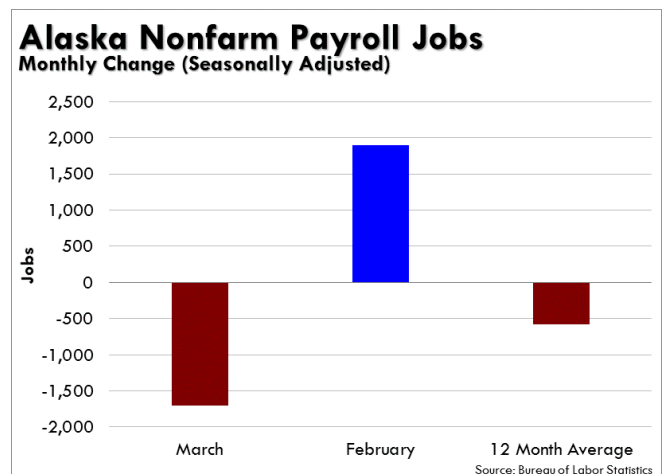
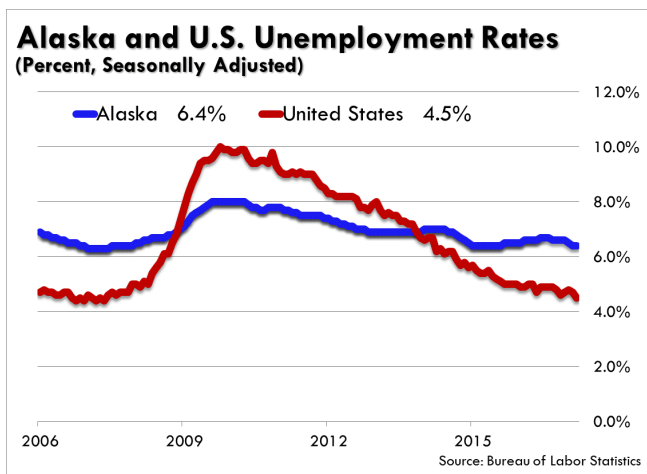


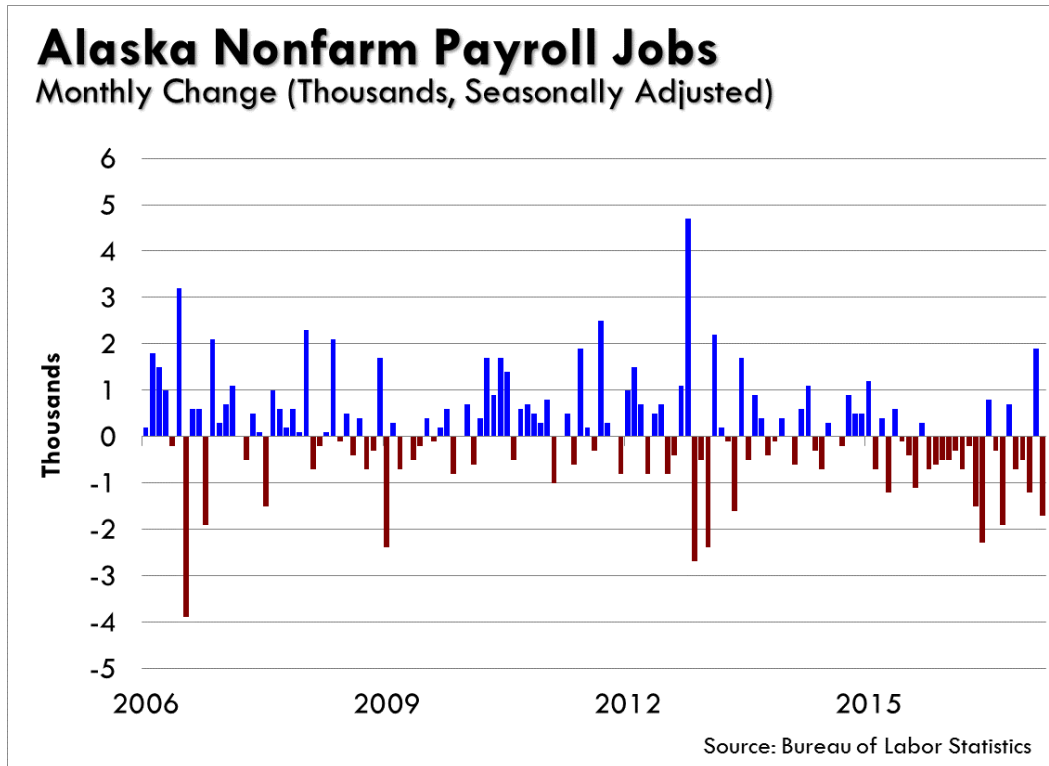


April 23, 2017

Summary

- **Alaska lost 1,700 jobs and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 6.4 percent in March** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Alaska lost 6,900 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point from 6.6 percent.
- **In March, Alaska's private sector lost 1,900 jobs** and over the past twelve months it declined by 7,000 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Alaskans rose by 156 in March**, and over the past year 4,020 Alaskans found jobs.
- Alaska's **labor force participation rate increased to 66.8 percent** from 66.4 percent in March. Since last year, the labor force participation rate rose 0.5 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.2 percentage point to 4.5 percent in March**. State employment and unemployment data for April is scheduled for release on May 19, 2017. The national employment situation report for April will be released on Friday, May 5, 2017.





Alaska Payroll Employment

Alaska lost 1,700 jobs, or 0.51 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during March. In the prior month, Alaska added 1,900 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Alaska declined by 6,900, or 2.06 percent. Alaska nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 3 of the past 12 months.

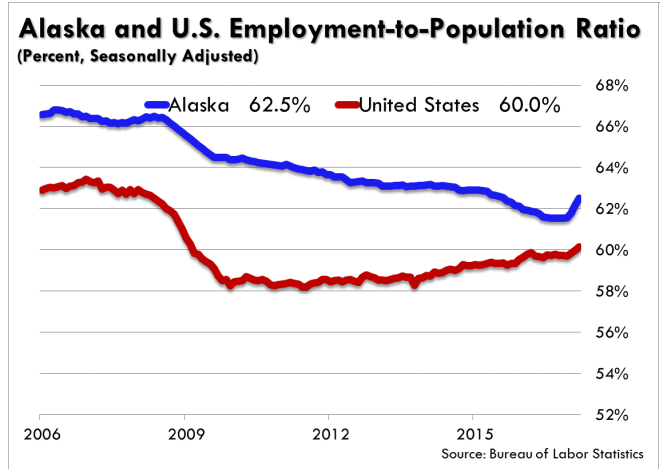
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 98,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the 12-month period ending March 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,185,000 jobs, or 1.52 percent. Alaska ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During March, Alaska's private-sector lost 1,900 jobs, or 0.76 percent. The private-sector in Alaska added 1,700 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Alaska declined by 7,000, or 2.76 percent. Alaska private-sector payroll employment has increased in 3 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 89,000 jobs in March, or 0.07 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,033,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.67 percent. Alaska ranks 34th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during March were Other Services (+200) and Mining & Logging (+200). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Construction (-800) and Educational & Health Services (-500).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure & Hospitality (+700) and Other Services (+700). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Mining & Logging (-2,200) and Manufacturing (-2,100).



Alaska Labor Force Statistics

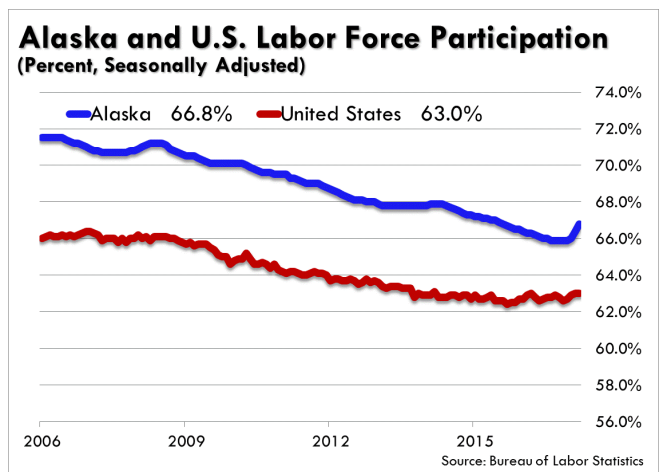
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Alaska rose to 66.8 percent in March from 66.4 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 14 have a higher labor force participation rate than Alaska. The labor force participation rate in Alaska is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Alaska was 71.2 percent in July 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Alaska occurred in December 1989 when the labor force participation rate hit 74.4 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 65.9 percent in December 2016. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in Alaska. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 63.0 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Alaska civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 62.5 percent in March from 62.2 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 17 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Alaska. The employment-to-population ratio in Alaska is 0.6 percentage point higher than a year earlier.



The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Alaska was 66.5 percent in May 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Alaska occurred in March 1998 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 69.5 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 61.5 percent in November 2016. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in December 2016 when the employment-to-population ratio was 61.5 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.1 percent in March. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.